COMMANDERS DIGEST

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DOD Says No Shortages Exist in RVN Air Ordnance

Reports of serious air munitions shortages in Vietnam are not in accord with the facts, Defense Department said in a March 29 news release.

"To the contrary, air ordnance has been expended in Southeast Asia at a staggering rate. This has been made possible by massive production and a logistics system which General Westmoreland has called the most responsive in the history of warfare."

DOD elaborated that as of March 15 more than a three months supply of air ammunition—213,280 tons—was on hand.

Noting air ordnance always has been in long supply over requirements, DOD said it did not wish to imply there never has been a distribution problem of any one of the some 40 specific types of air ordnance used.

In historical perspective, DOD said the tonnage dropped in Vietnam by the end of this calendar year will exceed the peak level of World War Two in Europe. More than 1,555,000 tons were dropped in the European and Mediterranean theaters from June 1942 to the end of hostilities.

"There is no ordnance shortage and this basic fact must be clearly understood, both at home and abroad," DOD said in conclusion.

Army Moves to Improve Civilian Personnel Program

Army is currently taking steps to improve its civilian personnel management program to attract, develop and retain high quality employees for meeting manpower requirements.

About 75,000 career employees in GS-5 and higher grades are expected to benefit from many of these actions.

Major steps include strengthening the role and responsibilities of functional chiefs and major commands, the creation of career planning boards and screening panels and the formation of a career executive group.

Functional chiefs will have more responsibility for forecasting long-range manpower requirements and assuring adequate entrance level input, identifying employees to receive long-term training, selecting the Career Executive Group and delineating career progression patterns.

CHANGE OF COMMAND—RAdm. Clyde J. Van Arsdall Jr. (left), and RAdm. Frederick J. Harlfinger II, salute the colors after a change of command ceremony at which Admiral Harlfinger became new Commander, South Atlantic Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Admiral Van Arsdall will become Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Force, Atlantic Fleet. The ceremony was held aboard the guided missile destroyer leader USS Standley, at San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Navy Awards $120 Million Contract To Produce New Standard Missile

Navy has let a production contract to reequip Terrier and Tartar surface-to-air missile ships with the new Standard missile.

In $120 million, multi-year contract, General Dynamics Corp. of Pomona, Calif., will produce the improved missile for about 50 destroyers, frigates and escorts now equipped with the Terrier and Tartar.

Defense Secretary McNamara has cited the missile to Congress as providing higher reliability, faster reaction time, improved high altitude and multiple-target capability, and easier maintenance than older missiles.

"The Standard can be fired from either Tartar or Terrier launchers and is produced in both the medium range and extended range versions," he elaborated.

In explaining the two versions, a Navy fact sheet described the first medium range (10 nautical miles) missile as employing a dual thrust rocket motor similar to the Tartar.

Navy said the extended range version (more than 30 nautical miles) uses two individual rocket motors.

Washington Memos

DOD CASUALTY FIGURES show that 8,560 U.S. service personnel have lost their lives through hostile action in Vietnam from Jan. 1, 1961, through March 25, 1967. Additionally, 1,814 lost their lives from non-hostile action causes.

NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF U.S. Armed Forces rose an estimated 10,110 men during February 1967, according to DOD preliminary reports. Total strength on Feb. 28, was 3,367,484. Breakdown of individual service figures shows Army with 1,433,163, an increase of 6,251 for the month; Navy with 752,079, an increase of 4,191 during February; Marine Corps with 279,389, a loss of 800 for the month, and Air Force with 902,853, an increase of 468.

AIR FORCE SURGEON General, Lt. Gen. Richard L. Bohannon, accompanied by 23 visiting surgeons general from 20 countries, is touring selected U.S. medical facilities. Itinerary includes: AF Eastern Test Range, Patrick AFB, Fla.; Naval Aerospace Medical Center, Pensacola, Fla., and Aerospace Medical Division, Brooks AFB, Texas. Upon completion of tour, party will attend 38th annual meeting of Aerospace Medical Association in Washington, April 10-13.

USAF HOSPITAL COMMANDER at Andrews AFB, Md., Brig. Gen. A. A. Hoffman has been appointed to three committees of the American College of Cardiology. He will serve on Committees on Overseas Education, Future Annual Meeting Arrangements, and the Permanent Office Site Committee. Gen. Hoffman was included in a delegation of College officials who recently presented President Johnson with the First Distinguished Service Award of the College.

FREE NONPARTISAN VOTING information is again being offered to servicemen overseas by League of Women Voters of United States. Requests for information should be addressed: League of Women Voters, 1200 17th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Requesters should include overseas address on both request and envelope, full home address in request, and, if possible, stamped and addressed return envelope.

NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC office's Maritime Safety Division specialists will tour Navy activities, hydrographic offices and American merchant ships under newly instituted maritime proficiency program. Objectives are a better understanding of nautical conditions, policies and operations of maritime agencies which function on an international basis.

AUSTRALIAN CONSUL-GENERAL H. Neil Truscott, attached to San Francisco consulate, made a tour of Naval facilities in the San Diego area. Truscott met with RAdm. David Lambert, commander, Pacific Fleet Training Command, and VAdm. Francis J. Blouin, commander, Naval Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet, senior Navy officer in San Diego.

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL Center's new heliport will be named in honor of Maj. Charles L. Kelly, Army Medical Service's most decorated pilot, who was killed in an attempt to bring medical aid to a wounded American soldier and two wounded Vietnamese on July 1, 1964. Dedication ceremonies will be April 7 at the heliport, located on the east side of Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.

NAVY HELICOPTER Antisubmarine Squadron Five, Quonset Point, R. I., has been awarded Battle Efficiency "E" plaque, top award for operational combat unit. Squadron was selected over three other squadrons on East coast. Squadron was also named winner of Isbell Trophy, awarded by Chief of Naval Operations for overall antisubmarine excellence.

AVCO SPACE SYSTEMS Division, Lowell, Mass., has selected Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif., to conduct feasibility study for fly-by spacecraft and atmospheric entry capsule to Venus in 1972. NASA has approved firm's selection. AVCO will head team effort with Northrop Systems Laboratories, Hawthorne, Calif., on six-month study to begin in May under an estimated $240,000 contract.

FAA SAFETY AWARDS will be presented April 7 to 38 Air Force aero clubs "for completing a full year of flight operations in 1966 without a single aircraft accident." FAA Administrator William F. McKee will present the flight safety award certificates.

ARMY'S FT. MONMOUTH will kick off five-day celebration May 16 marking post's 50th anniversary. Since establishment in 1917 as Camp Little Silver, establishment has grown to become Army's principal center for research, development and training in communications-electronics.

FAST COMBAT SUPPORT ship USS Camden joined the fleet April 1 following commissioning ceremonies. The 53,000-ton vessel is sister ship of USS Sacramento, a new class of ships combining the capabilities of tanker, ammunition and supply ship. Powered by 100,000 shaft horsepower, the ship has top speed of more than 25 knots.

A FIRST OCCURRED at this year's Air Force Association Convention with selection of SSgt. Dennis J. Kraft as "Distinguished First Term Enlistee Representative." The Hamilton AFB, Calif., sergeant was selected after being nominated by the parent command and competing with nominees of other commands. Twenty-two Outstanding Airmen were honored at the convention.

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Background for Commanders

SOUTHERN RHODESIA AND THE U.N.: THE U.S. POSITION

Joseph Palmer 2nd, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, made the following remarks in a recent address on this subject.

The question of Southern Rhodesia has lately attracted a great deal of attention here in the United States. More than a year has passed since Nov. 11, 1965, when the Rhodesian regime illegally declared its independence from Great Britain. The issue has become a focus for the attention of virtually the entire international community.

The most immediate and dramatic reason for this is the fact that on Dec. 16, 1966, the Security Council of the U.N. adopted a resolution declaring that the situation in Southern Rhodesia had become a "threat to the peace" under the terms of the U.N. Charter. To cope with this situation, it imposed against that territory limited mandatory economic sanctions—the first time in the 21-year history of the U.N. that the Security Council has applied these measures—and call[ed] upon the Members of the U.N. to support them.

American Support for U.N. Action *

Beyond the legal grounds, the reasons behind strong U.S. support of U.N. actions against Southern Rhodesia are several and profound.

• Any other policy would deny our own democratic heritage and the struggle for equal rights both at home and abroad. President Johnson expressed this thought in his address on May 26, 1966, marking the third anniversary of the Organization of African Unity, when he said:

> **As a basic part of our national tradition we support self-determination and an orderly transition to majority rule in every quarter of the globe. These principles . . . guide our policy today toward Rhodesia . . . .**
>
> **The foreign policy of the United States is rooted in its life at home. We will not permit human rights to be restricted in our own country. And we will not support policies abroad which are based on the rule of minorities or the discredited notion that men are unequal before the law. We will not live by a double standard—professing abroad what we do not practice at home or venerating at home what we ignore abroad.**

• Other reasons for U.S. support of firm measures against Southern Rhodesia are equally compelling. The birth of our own nation gives us a natural sympathy for peoples seeking self-determination—*true* self-determination, not self-determination for a small ruling clique. As a founding member of the United Nations and a principal architect of the U.N. Charter, we also have a special obligation to see its purposes upheld. Article 1 names as a purpose of the U.N. the development of friendly relations among nations "based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples."

• U.S. support for U.N. action is not based solely on moral and legal imperatives, however. It is equally grounded in practical considerations. The American national interest is furthered if we can maintain friendly relations with the world's newly independent countries, for whom the Rhodesian issue is of the greatest emotional and symbolic significance.

The great majority of newly independent African states have sought to achieve multiracial societies and to protect the rights of minorities. The success of a rebellion based on white supremacy would seriously undermine their efforts. It would etch deeper the lines of political conflict and strengthen the hand of extremism and racism throughout the continent. In so doing it could pave the way for catastrophic racial violence. Pressures in other African countries to support violent measures against the white regime in Southern Rhodesia would grow and "armies of liberation" might be formed. Developments of this kind would open a world of opportunity to powers who believe their interests are best served by international unrest.

Such events would hardly be in the interest of peaceful development and certainly not in the interest of the United States.

American policy of support for a measured U.N. response to end the rebellion and bring about majority rule in Southern Rhodesia steers a course between those who advocate the use of force and those who advocate a hands-off policy. It is a narrow course, and not without perils, but the only one which offers promise. To use force now would bring immediately the disruption and chaos we seek to avoid. To do nothing would end in the same result.

On Jan. 5, 1967, President Johnson signed Executive Order No. 11322, officially implementing mandatory economic sanctions. Violation of the executive order is a criminal offense. The President acted under the United Nations Participation Act, passed by Congress on Dec. 20, 1945, and amended in 1949 and 1965, which authorizes the President to apply sanctions voted by the Security Council.

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* *Excerpts from a background paper published in the Department of State Bulletin, March 6, 1967.*

Joint Amphibious Exercise Scheduled in Caribbean

A 21,000-man force will participate in a 22-day unified Atlantic Command joint amphibious and airborne training exercise in the Caribbean this month, according to Navy Department officials.

The exercise, titled "Clove Hitch III," will involve units of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and the Puerto Rico Air National Guard in an extensive test of tactical concepts.

Clove Hitch III will be directed by Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, commander-in-chief Atlantic, from his headquarters in Norfolk, Va. On-scene commander will be VAdm. Bernard A. Clarey, commander, Joint Task Force 122.

Scheduled for April 8-30, the exercise will employ a simultaneous amphibious assault by Marines—using both "over-the-beach" and helicopter "vertical envelopment" techniques—and paratrooper airdrop from C-141 Starlifter jet transports. It will be the first major exercise in which the C-141 will be used to airdrop paratroopers.

The simulated double-barreled assault will follow a "softening up" of "occupied eastern Puerto Rico and the islands of Vieques and Culebra by joint Air Force and carrier-based Navy aircraft and shore bombardment by destroyers and cruisers.

AUTODIN Center Opens At Navy Center in Hawaii

The first AUTODIN electronic switching center established outside continental United States was hooked up in early April at the Navy center at Wahiawa, Hawaii.

Defense Communications Agency said eight other automatic switches will be installed in the Pacific and three are planned for Europe.

AUTODIN is a high speed, computer controlled, common user, secure data system.

CHECKPOINT CHECK—1st Lt. Thomas E. Moore, USA (left), convoy commander, goes over the checkpoints between An Khe and Pleiku, Vietnam, with Capt. Francis L. Gibson, operations officer of the 27th Transportation Battalion, while stopped at the An Khe control point.

AF Reserve Unit Members Log 16,000 Hours in C-119s

Thirty members of the Air Force Reserve's 939th Troop Carrier Group, stationed at Portland International Airport in Oregon, logged nearly 16,000 miles in three C-119 "Flying Boxcars" during a six-day training exercise in Alaska late last month.

The reservists made the 1,400-mile trip from Portland to Elmendorf AFB, to provide tactical airlift assistance to the Alaska Air Command and to gain training experience.

Navy Forecasts 106,610 Enlisted Promotions

Enlisted promotions for 106,610 active duty sailors are forecast by Bureau of Naval Personnel after running the results of February's promotion exams through a computer.

Of this total some 4,785 promotions to chief petty officer are predicted.

The computer breakout gave this run of statistics: 59,468 to E-4, 32,046 to E-5 and 10,311 to E-6.

Exec. Order Standardizes Military Food Service

An executive order to make all rations and quantities of food the same for the four military services has been signed by the President and sent to the Secretary of Defense.

The new executive order equalizing rations will be effective July 1. A DOD directive regarding food quantities, monetary value and related questions is being drafted.

The Defense Secretary is empowered to implement these powers without approval or ratification by the President. He can delegate, in turn, some of the powers given him by the Chief Executive regarding rations to the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force.

The Navy Department has been prescribing its rations under a law Congress passed in 1933.

The Army and the Air Force draw their ration authority from a series of executive orders, beginning in 1932, from the President.

Lt. Gen. J. H. Polk Named To Command USAREUR

U.S. Army Europe will get a new Commander June 1 when Gen. Andrew P. O'Meara retires and Lt. Gen. J. H. Polk, currently Deputy USAREUR commander, succeeds him.

SHAPE Commander Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer made the announcement March 30, saying that General Polk has been selected for the grade of full general and that he will also succeed General O'Meara as Commander of NATO's Central Army Group.

General Polk served as Seventh Army Commander before being named as Deputy in USAREUR. Previously he has served as Berlin Commander, Commanding General of the 4th Armored Div., and of V Corps.

General O'Meara, who retires after 37 years of active service, has served as USAREUR and NATO Central Army Group Commander since March 1965.

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